## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A composition for treating a wart comprising:

formaldehyde as an active ingredient, wherein the formaldehyde is present in an amount from about 2% to about 20% by weight;

at least one non-active ingredient; and wherein the composition is in the form of a gel.

- 2. The composition of claim 1, wherein the formaldehyde is present in an amount greater than or equal to about 10% by weight.
- 3. The composition of claim 1, wherein the formaldehyde is present in an amount between about 5% to about 15% by weight.
- 4. The composition of claim 1, wherein the at least one non-active ingredient includes water which is present in amount of at least 50% by weight.
- 5. The composition of claim 4, further including thickening agent in an amount sufficient to cause the composition to be in gel form.

- 6. The composition of claim 1, wherein the at least one non-active ingredient includes deionized water, polysorbate 20, isopropanol, carbomer, peppermint oil and triethanolamine.
- 7. The composition of claim 6, wherein the polysorbate 20 is present in an amount greater than 5% by weight.
- 8. The composition of claim 6, wherein each of the isopropanol, carbomer, peppermint oil and triethanolamine is present in an amount less than 5% by weight.
- 9. The composition of claim 1, wherein the at least one non-active ingredient includes at least one thickening agent, a fragrance and an alcohol.
  - 10. A composition for treating a wart comprising:

formaldehyde as an active ingredient, wherein the formaldehyde is present in an amount greater than or equal to about 10% by weight;

non-active ingredients including at least two ingredients selected from the group consisting of deionized water, polysorbate 20, isopropanol, carbomer, peppermint oil and triethanolamine; and

wherein the composition is in the form of a gel.

- 11. The composition of claim 10, wherein the deionized water is present in an amount greater than about 58%.
- 12. The composition of claim 10, wherein the polysorbate 20 is present in an amount greater than 5% by weight.
- 13. The composition of claim 10, wherein each of the isopropanol, carbomer, peppermint oil and triethanolamine is present in an amount less than 5% by weight.
  - 14. A composition for treating a wart comprising:

formaldehyde as an active ingredient, wherein the formaldehyde is present in an amount from about 2% to about 30% by weight;

at least one non-active ingredient; and wherein the composition is in the form of a powder.

- 15. The composition of claim 14, wherein the formaldehyde is present in an amount greater than or equal to about 10% by weight.
- 16. The composition of claim 14, wherein the at least one non-active ingredient includes a thickening agent present in an amount greater than or equal to about 50%.

- 17. The composition of claim 16, wherein the thickener comprises silica.
- 18. The composition of claim 14, wherein the at least one non-active ingredient includes peppermint oil, corn starch and kaolin.
  - 19. A method of treating a wart comprising the steps of:

providing a pharmaceutical preparation that includes formaldehyde as an active ingredient and at least one non-active, wherein the formaldehyde is present in an amount from about 2% to about 20% by weight and the composition is in the form of a powder or a gel;

applying the preparation to a surface of the wart to cause drying of the wart; and subsequently removing the dried wart tissue.

- 20. The method of claim 19, wherein the formaldehyde is present in amount greater than or equal to about 10% by weight.
- 21. The method of claim 19, wherein the at least one non-active ingredient includes a thickening agent present in an amount greater than or equal to about 50%.
  - 22. The method of claim 21, wherein the thickening agent comprises silica.
- 23. The method of claim 21, wherein the non-active ingredients permit the composition to be in the form of a gel, wherein the non-active ingredients include at least three

ingredients selected from the group consisting of deionized water, polysorbate 20, isopropanol, carbomer, peppermint oil and triethanolamine.

24. A method of treating a surgical site prior to or after another procedure is performed to remove a skin growth, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a pharmaceutical preparation that includes formaldehyde as an active ingredient and at least one non-active ingredient, wherein the formaldehyde is present in an amount from about 2% to about 20% by weight and the composition is in the form of a powder or a gel;

applying the preparation to the surgical site to remove excessive moisture at the surgical site; and

performing the other procedure to treat the skin growth in the case where the preparation is used as a pretreatment prior to the other procedure being performed.

- 25. The method of claim 24, wherein the other procedure comprises a pre or post surgical procedure for removal of the skin growth or non-surgical laser treatment of the skin growth.
- 26. The method of claim 24, wherein the skin growth comprises one or more warts.

27. The method of claim 24, wherein the formaldehyde is present in amount between about 5% to about 10% by weight.